

## **World Trade Situation and Policy Updates**

### **Mexico Limits Ports of Entry for U.S. Apples**

On June 29, 2001, Mexico's Secretariat of Treasury announced that imports of apples from the United States will only be allowed through the ports of Ciudad Juarez, Nogales, Ciudad Reynosa, Manzanillo, and Tijuana. With this action, Mexico eliminated access for U.S. apples through Nuevo Laredo, which had been the leading port of entry. The announcement is reportedly part of Mexico's efforts to control alleged unfair practices involving apples coming from the United States. Mexico is the top destination for U.S. apples, with sales in marketing year 1999/2000 (July-June) totaling 155,000 tons, valued at \$85 million.

### **California Table Grape Exports to New Zealand Expected to Resume**

After a series of technical exchanges and intensive coordination by the APHIS Canberra Office and FAS/Wellington, an Import Health Standard for fresh California table grapes has been finalized. As a result, grape shipments to New Zealand are scheduled to begin shortly under a pre-clearance program. At the end of the 2000 U.S. export season, New Zealand temporarily revoked the Import Health Standard for the importation of fresh table grapes from California due to several identified plant quarantine pest. For 2000, U.S. table grape shipments to New Zealand were valued at \$3.9 million, down 10 percent from the previous year.